

Other Family Preservation Services (non-Homebuilders)

Program description:

"Other" Family Preservation Services Programs have the same goals as "intensive" family preservation services: to prevent removal of a child from his or her biological home (or to promote his or her return to that home) by improving family functioning. However, "other" FPS programs lack the rigorous criteria for implementation as defined by the Homebuilders model.

Typical age of primary program participant: 10

Typical age of secondary program participant: N/A

Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

Outcomes Measured	Primary or Second-ary Participant	No. of Effect Sizes	Unadjusted Effect Sizes (Random Effects Model)			Adjusted Effect Sizes and Standard Errors Used in the Benefit-Cost Analysis					
						First time ES is estimated			Second time ES is estimated		
			ES	SE	p-value	ES	SE	Age	ES	SE	Age
Child abuse and neglect	P	7	0.09	0.05	0.11	0.07	0.05	11	0.07	0.05	17
Out-of-home placement	P	11	0.00	0.08	0.99	0.03	0.08	11	0.03	0.08	17

Benefit-Cost Summary

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2011). The economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in Technical Appendix 2.	Program Benefits					Costs	Summary Statistics			
	Partici- pants	Tax- payers	Other	Other Indirect	Total Benefits		Benefit to Cost Ratio	Return on Invest- ment	Benefits Minus Costs	Proba- bility of a positive net present value
	-\$411	-\$208	-\$179	-\$104	-\$902	-\$3,046	-\$0.30	n/e	-\$3,948	0%

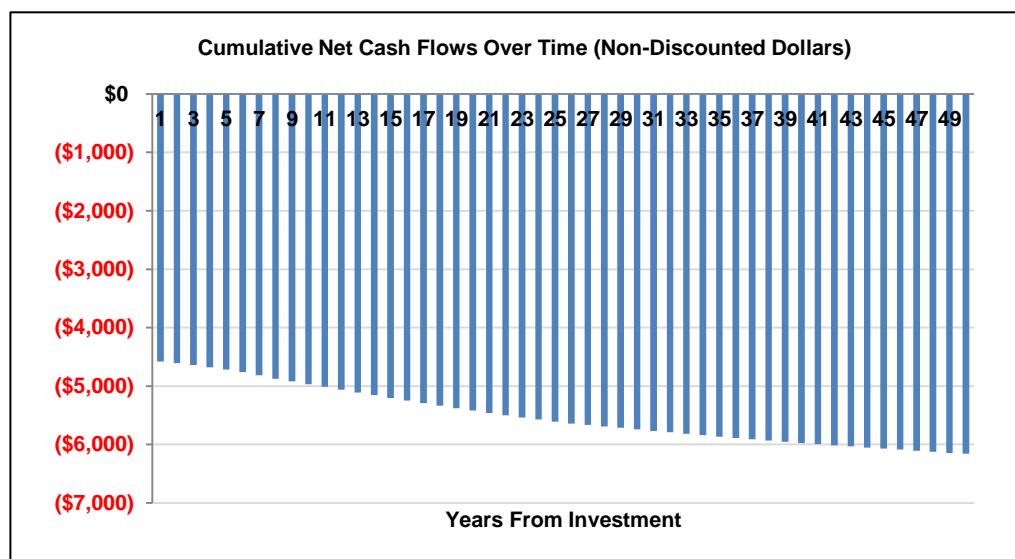
Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates

Source of Benefits	Benefits to:					Total Benefits
	Partici-pants	Tax-payers	Other	Other In-direct		
From Primary Participant						
Crime	\$0	-\$63	-\$183	-\$31		-\$277
Earnings via high school graduation	-\$82	-\$30	\$0	-\$15		-\$127
Earnings via test scores	-\$45	-\$16	\$0	-\$8		-\$69
Child abuse and neglect	-\$274	-\$32	\$0	-\$16		-\$322
Out-of-home placement	\$0	-\$27	\$0	-\$13		-\$40
K-12 special education	\$0	-\$17	\$0	-\$9		-\$26
Earnings via alcohol disorder	-\$5	-\$2	\$0	-\$1		-\$7
Health care costs for alcohol disorder	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		-\$1
Earnings via illicit drug disorder	-\$1	\$0	\$0	\$0		-\$1
Health care costs for illicit drug disorder	\$0	-\$1	-\$1	\$0		-\$2
Property loss from illicit drug disorder	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		-\$1
Earnings via depressive disorder	-\$4	-\$2	\$0	-\$1		-\$6
Health care costs via depressive disorder	-\$2	-\$5	-\$5	-\$2		-\$13
Health care costs via education	\$2	-\$13	\$10	-\$7		-\$8

Detailed Cost Estimates

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The uncertainty range is used in Monte Carlo risk analysis, described in Technical Appendix 2.	Program Costs			Comparison Costs			Summary Statistics	
	Annual Cost	Program Duration	Year Dollars	Annual Cost	Program Duration	Year Dollars	Present Value of Net Program Costs (in 2011 dollars)	Uncertainty (+ or - %)
	\$2,846	1	2003	\$314	1	2003	\$3,041	10%

Source: Program costs per family provided by DSHS Children's Administration, 2008. WSIPP adjusted for multiple children per family. Comparison group costs calculated based on social worker time.



Multiplicative Adjustments Applied to the Meta-Analysis

Type of Adjustment	Multiplier
1- Less well-implemented comparison group or observational study, with some covariates.	0.5
2- Well-implemented comparison group design, often with many statistical controls.	0.5
3- Well-done observational study with many statistical controls (e.g., IV, regression discontinuity).	0.81
4- Random assignment, with some RA implementation issues.	0.81
5- Well-done random assignment study.	1.00
Program developer = researcher	0.25
Unusual (not "real world") setting	0.5
Weak measurement used	0.54

The adjustment factors for these studies are based on a multivariate regression analysis of 106 effect sizes from evaluations of home visiting programs within child welfare or at-risk populations. The analysis examined the relative magnitude of effect sizes for studies rated a 1, 2, 3, or 4 research design quality, in comparison with a 5 (see Technical Appendix II for a description of these ratings). We weighted the model using the random effects inverse variance weights for each effect size. The results indicated that research designs 1 and 2 have effect sizes about twice the size of studies rated as a 5, and research designs 3 and 4 have effect sizes about 24 percent higher than a 5.

The analysis also found that effect sizes were statistically significantly higher when the program developer was involved in the research evaluation, or when a weak outcome measure was used.

Studies Used in the Meta-Analysis

- Halper, G., & Jones, M. A. (1981). *Serving families at risk of dissolution: Public preventive services in New York City*. New York: Human Resources Administration, Special Services for Children.
- Jones, M. A. (1985). *A second chance for families: 5 years later follow-up of a program to prevent foster care*. New York: Child Welfare League of America.
- Lewandowski, C. A., & Pierce, L. (2002). Assessing the effect of family-centered out-of-home care on reunification outcomes. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 12(2), 205-221.
- Meezan, W., & McCroskey, J. (1996). Improving family functioning through family preservation services: Results of the Los Angeles experiment. *Family Preservation Journal*, Winter, 9-29.
- Schuerman, J. R., Rzepnicki, T. L., & Littell, J. H. (1994). *Putting families first: An experiment in family preservation*. New York: Aldine de Gruyter.
- Szykula, S. A., & Fleischman, M. J. (1985). Reducing out-of-home placements of abuse children: Two controlled field studies. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 9(2), 277-283.
- Walker, J. L. (2009). An evaluation of the Family Well-Being program at the Windsor-Essex Children's Aid Society. *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 47(02), A.
- Westat, Chapin Hall Center for Children, & James Bell Associates. (2001, January). *Evaluation of family preservation and reunification programs: Interim report*. Retrieved June 29, 2011 from <http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/fampres94/index.htm>
- Yuan, Y.-Y., McDonald, W. R., Wheeler, C. E., Struckman-Johnson, D., & Rivest, M. (1990). *Evaluation of AB 1562 in-home care demonstration projects: Final report*. Sacramento, CA: Walter R. McDonald & Associates.